

UNITIED STATES DEPARTIMENT OF COMMERCE Patent and Total Commerce Office Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS Washington, D.C. 20231

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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Application/Control Number: 09/096,589

Art Unit: 1652

The reply filed on 1-28-00 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): applicant canceled all previous claims and presented new claims which are stated to correspond to previous groups II and VIII but did not elect a group for prosecution on the merits. It is noted that a request to recombine two or more groups or otherwise traverse the restriction does not constitute a complete response. Furthermore, it is noted that applicants indication that the amended claims correspond to Groups II and VIII is not agreed with. New claim 38 appears to be generic to previously defined Groups II and III, new claims 39-42 appear to be generic to previous groups V-VII and new claims 43 and 44 correspond to previous Group IX, not Group VIII. See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rebecca Prouty, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 308-4000. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 to 4:30.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ponnathapu Achutamurthy, can be reached at (703) 308-3804. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

Rebecca Prouty Primary Examiner Art Unit 1652